



FROM THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CENTER FOR IMMUNIZATION AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES

The U.S. Public Health Service is committed to reaching the **Healthy People 2020 goal to increase immunization rates and reduce preventable infectious diseases**. To measure progress toward this goal, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is conducting the National Immunization Survey Provider Record Check Study. This study collects and reports the most complete information available on the current vaccination levels of preschool children and adolescents for each state.

This study includes supplementing household reports of immunization collected by telephone interviews with the immunization information from health care provider offices. We are requesting information from all medical providers on vaccinations given and the dates of vaccination for children or adolescents whose parent or guardian participated in the telephone survey. The type of vaccine, the number of vaccinations, and the dates of vaccination will be used to estimate vaccination levels and progress toward Healthy People 2020 objectives. The protected health information requested is the minimum necessary to accomplish the objectives of the study.

The parent/guardian has agreed to participate in this study, and has verbally consented during the telephone interview to allow us to obtain immunization information from your records. Enclosed is a copy of the form(s) used to document the parent/guardian verbal consent to disclose information from their child(ren)'s immunization record(s). Pursuant to the document of consent, we would appreciate the completion of the enclosed Immunization History Questionnaire(s) for the named child(ren) whether or not you were the provider of the immunizations.

Please be assured that there are several ways that the Privacy Rule (as mandated by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)) allows you to participate in the NIS. Disclosures of patient data are permitted for public health surveillance purposes and for research that has been approved by an Institutional Review Board – both of which apply to this survey. In addition, a Privacy Board at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has reviewed this study. We invite you to visit our respondent website (www.cdc.gov/vaccines/NIS) for information regarding the survey including important policies and procedures regarding confidentiality and meeting the HIPAA Privacy Rule requirements. Additional information regarding HIPAA is available at the following website: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/m2e411a1.htm>.

This study is authorized by Section 306 of the Public Health Service Act and The National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. The information you supply will be treated confidentially, as specified by law in Section 308(d) of the Public Health Service Act. The information will be used for statistical purposes only; no information that could identify you, your practice, your facility, the child, or the child's family will be released. Although your participation is voluntary, we hope that you will choose to participate.

You may participate by completing the enclosed questionnaire(s) and faxing or mailing it in the enclosed prepaid envelope to NORC at the University of Chicago with the vaccination information. As these medical documents are confidential, if sending a fax please take extra care to dial the correct toll-free fax number. Mail or fax to:

NORC at the University of Chicago
National Immunization Survey
55 E Monroe Street, FL 19
Chicago, IL 60603
FAX: (866) 324-8659

To assist you with HIPAA recordkeeping, we have provided you with a Documentation Notice for HIPAA Accounting. This document should be placed in each child's record.

In developing this package, efforts have been made to consolidate multiple requests for immunization records for children in your practice. However, as the survey collects information continuously throughout the year, you may receive additional requests for immunization information on other children for whom you provide medical care.

Please review the following links for further information:

MMWR article on vaccination coverage for children:

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6334a1.htm?s_cid=mm6334a1_e

MMWR article on vaccination coverage for teens:

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6329a4.htm>

Information about vaccinations of children and adolescents:

<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp.htm>

Healthy People 2020 objectives related to immunization and infectious diseases:

<https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/immunization-and-infectious-diseases>

If you have any questions or comments about the enclosed material, or the records being requested, please call

1-800-817-4316. If you would like additional information about the National Immunization Survey, please call Dr. Laurie Elam-Evans at (404) 718-4838 with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Your participation in the National Immunization Survey Provider Record Check Study is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

//Nancy Messonnier, M.D.//

Nancy Messonnier, M.D.
Director, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Captain, United States Public Health Service

Enclosures:

Roster of Immunization History Questionnaires issued
Immunization History Questionnaire(s) (for each child/adolescent)
Documentation of Telephone Consent (for each child/adolescent)
NIS Documentation Notice for HIPAA Accounting (for each child/adolescent)
Frequently Asked Questions about the HIPAA and the NIS Institutional Review Board Approval
Business Reply Envelope